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By His Excellency

Thomas Chittenden

Governor. Captain General and Commander in Chief. in and over the State of Vermont

A PROCLAMATION

It being the indispensible duty of us as a people to acknowledge our absolute dependence on the supreme Ruler of the Universe, by seeking for direction and success in all our affairs; and the approaches of Spring more especially calling upon us to implore the divine blessings, on the concerns and occurrences of the ensuing year. and to humble ourselves for our sins

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council to appoint, and I do hereby appoint Wednesday, the nineteenth day of April next. to be observed as a day of Public Humiliation, Fasting, & Prayer throughout this State And I do hereby exhort ministers and people of every religious denomination, to assemble on said day, at their respective places of Public Worship. humbly to acknowledge their sins, and supplicate divine forgiveness. through the merits of Jesus Christ. That he would restore needed mercies; Order in righteousness the internal government of this State; That he would be pleased to bless the President. Senate and House of Representatives. of the United States of America and all others in authority, and so direct them that they may always incline to maintain truth, and execute justice; That he would secure the invaluable blessings of a Free Government to the United States; and that he would extend that Government to all nations. which is founded upon the natural rights of the people. That he would save our land from sickness. Pestilence Droughts. Insects, and every desolating judgement; That he would favour agriculture. and cause the earth in due time to yield its increase; That he would graciously bestow his blessings upon all schools and Seminaries of learning. and extend among us true and useful knowledge. That he would continue

peace to us. defend our frontiers. and deliver us from our enemies: put an end to war. to tyranny and to despotism. and humble the proud oppressors of mankind. to diffuse. and establish acts of sobriety. order. morality. and piety: and finaly to impart all the blessings we pray for. or ask for ourselves. to the whole family of mankind: and that the kind author of these blessings will be graciously pleased to prolong them to us. imprint on our hearts. a deep and solemn sense of our obligations to him for them. to teach us rightly to estimate their value. to dispose us to merit a continuance of his favors. by not abusing them. by our gratitude for them. and. by a correspondent conduct. as a citizen and as men: That G.D. would mercifully shed down the influences of his Holy spirit; make us a wise and happy people. put an end to errors. to vice and immorality. and grant that true religion and virtue may every where be maintained; That he would for this end. bless the ministers of his holy word; granting them more abundant measures of knowledge. and the exceeding great spirit of his grace; That he would build up Churches in the faith. piety. and fellowship of the Gospel: and advance the peaceful glorious kingdom of God our saviour throughout the world
And I do earnestly recommend to the good people of this State. to abstain from servile labour and recreation. inconsistent with the duties of said day

Given under my hand. at Wittiston this tenth day of March. in the year of our Lord. one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven; and of our Independence the twenty first

Thomas Chittenden

By His Excellency's Command

Freman Squier Secretary

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE